

Abstract of the Invention

5 A server and method is provided that allows a computer configured for a different network to access a network without hardware or software configuration changes to the computer. The invention allows users to plug into the network and access not only the network that their computer is connected to but also to the Internet, the Worldwide Web and the individual's email. This is particularly useful to visitors to multiple unit buildings such as hotels. Not only can the service be provided by the server and method of the invention connected to and carried out on the network but it does not require manual configuration changes to the computer or new software or hardware for the computer. In situations where access is to be controlled this is done through a registration driver and module. Only registered guests have access to the network and the services and access it provides. The invention determines and assigns addressing information to properly direct traffic to and from the computer. The invention provides for the storage and maintenance of the addressing data. Registration status information and billing information is collected and maintained to determine access to and billing for services.

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